

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the Paragraph beginning on p. 15, ll. 20 of the specification and insert the following therefor:

--Fig. 9 depicts cable 90, which is another embodiment of the present invention that employs tube assembly 10. Cable 90 includes a sheath system 97 about tube assembly 10 for protecting tube assembly 10 from, for instance, crushing forces and environmental effects. In this case, sheath system 97 includes a water-swellable tape 92 that is secured by a binder thread (not visible), a pair of ripcords 95, an armor tape 96, and a jacket 98. The pair of ripcords 95 are generally disposed about one-hundred and eighty degrees apart with about ninety degree intervals from the armor overlap, thereby inhibiting the shearing of ripcord on an edge of the armor tape during use. In preferred embodiments, ripcords suitable for ripping through an armor tape have a construction as disclosed in U.S. Pat. App. No. 10/652,046 filed on August 29, 2003, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. Armor tape 96 can be either a dielectric or a metallic material. If a dielectric armor tape is used the cable may also include a metallic wire for locating the cable in buried applications. In other words, the metallic wire makes the cable tonable. Jacket 98 generally surrounds armor tape 96 and provides environmental protection to cable 90 130. Of course, other suitable sheath systems may be used about the tube assembly.--